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**ABSTRACT**

In an operation to record information played back from a first recording medium into a second recording medium, control is executed to permit or prohibit the operation to record (dub or copy) the information into the second recording medium on the basis of a judgment as to whether the first recording medium is a recording medium that is permitted to be dubbed or prohibited from being dubbed. The control can be executed to permit or prohibit the operation to copy the information in accordance with the type of the first recording medium.